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INDUCTIVE BIBLE STUDIES.

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PREPARED BY

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TWENTY-FIRST STUDY.—ISRAEL AND JUDAH IN THE REIGNS OF JEROBOAM II. AND MENAHEM.

[The material of this "study" is furnished by Professors Beecher and Harper. It is edited by Professor Harper.]

I. PRELIMINARY NOTES.

1. The period covered by this "study" is not nearly so rich in material as that of former "studies."
2. Let pains be taken to master the list of kings of each kingdom in their order. This knowledge is as necessary for a satisfactory study of the history as is the ability to repeat the alphabet in order, for looking up words in a dictionary.
3. Connect by some method with the name of each king the names also of the prophets who lived during his reign.
4. For reading and study, the following literature is suggested: (1) commentaries *in loco*, especially Lange and Cambridge Bible for Schools; (2) Geikie, "Hours with the Bible," vol. IV., chs. 7, 8 (pp. 176-231); (3) Stanley, "History of the Jewish Church," 2d series, lectures XXXIII., XXXIV. (portions); (4) Schrader, "The Cuneiform Inscriptions and the O. T.," vol. I., pp. 208-251.
5. In a foot-note (see below*), there is given a list of the Assyriological literature which may be

*The Literature of Biblical Assyriology.—I. ARTICLES on "Assyria," "Babylonia," "Chaldea," "Cuneiform Inscriptions," "Tiglath-pileser," "Shalmaneser," "Sennacherib," "Esarhaddon," etc., in the various periodicals and books of reference. Among the best are the brief articles in the Schaff-Herzog "Encyclopædia," "The American Encyclopædia" and "Encyclopædia Britannica." These give quite full lists from which the present list may be supplemented.

2. POPULAR WORKS. Of these there are many. Rawlinson's "Ancient Monarchies" is one of the earliest, fullest and best known. Compare also Geo. Smith, "Assyrian Eponym Canon," Geo. Smith, "Assyrian Discoveries," Geo. Smith, "Chaldean Account of Genesis" (2d ed. by Sayce), Schrader, "Die Keilinschriften und das Alte Testament" (first volume translated), Schrader, "Die Keilinschriften und Geschichtsforschung," Schrader, "Die Assyrisch-babylonische Keilinschriften," Sayce, "History of Babylonia," Sayce, "Babylonian Literature," Layard, "Babylon and Persepolis," Layard, "Discoveries in the Ruins of Nineveh and Babylon," Mürtter, "Geschichte Babyloniens und Assyriens," Ragozin, "The Story of Assyria," Tiele, "Geschichte Babyloniens und Assyriens," Sayce, "Hibbert Lectures," 1887. It is especially true of works of these two classes that they contain, not the evidence itself in the case, but men's opinions on the evidence. This statement applies equally to the men who find on the monuments wonderful confirmations of Bible history, and to those who find there proofs that the Bible is unhistorical, or its text corrupt.

3. INSCRIPTIONS. The evidence of the monuments consists, primarily, in the remains that have been discovered, especially those now in the great museums of the world. Practically, very few of the readers of the STUDENT have access to these.

More accessible are the inscriptions that have been published in books: e. g., Layard, "Inscriptions in the Cuneiform Character," Rawlinson (with the aid of Norris, George Smith and Pinches), "The Cuneiform Inscriptions of Western Asia," vols. 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5. Pogon, "L'Inscription du Bavian," Lyon, "Sargontexte," Haupt, "Akkadische u. Sumerische Keilschrifttexte," Haupt, "Nimrodepos," Pinches, "Texts in the Babylonian Wedgewriting," etc.

Others will be found scattered through different journals and periodicals. The following are the principal journals in which Cuneiform Inscriptions are printed: *Transactions of the Biblical Archaeological Society*, vols. i.-viii; *Journal Asiatique*; *Zeitschrift für die Assyriologie*; *Babylonian and Oriental Record*; *Hebraica*. In the last named journal, Pinches has published several contract tablets: Craig, "The Throne Inscription of Shalmaneser;" O'Connor, "Variants of Nebuchadnezzar Inscriptions;" R. F. Harper, some hitherto unpublished Esarhaddon Inscriptions.

4. Most students, who use these "inductive studies," will be able to use only the translations of the inscriptions. These are confessedly imperfect, and often conjectural, but are, at least, nearer the fountain of the evidence than are the popular volumes or the articles in the books of reference. Some of the translations are found in some of the popular works. Others are published with the texts, others by themselves in the various journals and periodicals, and still others in books. The following books in English cover the ground pretty well: "The Assyrian Canon," by George Smith, London, *Samuel Bagster & Sons*. "Assyrian Discoveries," by George Smith, London, 1883. "Records of the Past," vols. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11. *Samuel Bagster & Sons*, 1874-1880.

Cf. also Lotz's "Tiglath-pileser," Lhotzky's "Asurnasirpal," Craig's "Shalmaneser" (*Hebraica*, July, '87), Hoerning's "Sanherib," Robert F. Harper's "Esarhaddon" (in *Hebraica*, Jan. '88), S. A. Smith's "Asurbanipal," Haupt's "Sindfluthbericht," Flemming's "Nebuchadnezzar" (also C. J. Ball in *TSBA*, vol. viii.), Latrille's "Nabonidus," Zimmer's "Babylonische Busspsalmen," Francis Brown's "Babylonian Poetry," in *Presbyterian Review*, Jan., '88. Bezold's "Achaemenideninschriften," etc., etc.

1. 2 Kgs. 14:17. Compare the numerals with those in 15:1; 14:2,23. Was there an interregnum? Is there any other explanation?
2. 14:19. "Lachish" in Hebrew history.
3. 14:21. What may be inferred as to the part of the *people* of Judah in selecting their kings? Compare the accounts of accession of other kings.
4. 14:21. With "Azariah" compare Uzziah (15:13,30, etc.); also Azareel (1 Chron. 25:18) and Uzziel (1 Chron. 25:4).
5. 14:22,25,28. "Elath," "Hamath;" cf. 2 Chr. 26:2; Amos 6:14. Do the frontiers, and the history in general, indicate that Jeroboam and Uzziah were hostile, or that the two kingdoms were one, or what?
6. 14:25. Who was this Jonah?
7. 14:28. Former history of Damascus and Hamath.
8. 15:4. Additions furnished at this point by Chronicles.
9. 15:5. For what reason was he smitten? The law relating to lepers.
10. 15:10. "Before the people;" compare the text of the Septuagint.

IV. SPECIAL TOPICS.

1. **Kings of Israel and Judah.** (1) Names of those taken up in this lesson, with the length of reign; (2) the list of kings of Judah from the beginning; (3) the list of kings of Israel from the beginning.
2. **The Accounts of Kings and Chronicles.** (1) Facts stated in one and not in the other; (2) explanation of the variation.
3. **Jeroboam II.** (1) Length of reign; (2) his religious policy; (3) consequences of the defeat of the Syrians; (4) condition of the land during his reign, 13:5; Amos 6:4-6; 3:15; Hos. 12:8; (5) character of the people at this time (see Amos and Hosea).
4. **Uzziah.** (1) Length of reign; (2) his religious policy; (3) condition of Judah during his reign; (4) his leprosy.
5. **Condition of Assyria.** From the account in Kings and Chronicles, infer the relative condition of Assyria at the following dates: (1) the reigns of Jehu and Jehoahaz; (2) the time when Jeroboam was making his conquests; (3) the times of Menahem.
6. **Pul.** It is generally held that the Pul mentioned in the "study" was Tiglath-pileser, who invaded Israel in the days of Ahaz, 2 Kgs. 16:6, etc.
7. **This History on the Assyrian Monuments.*** From "Records of the Past," vol. V., pp. 45-49; Smith's "Canon," pp. 117-120; Smith's "Assyrian Discoveries," pp. 275, 276 seq., or from other sources at your command, verify and fill out the following statements: There are two or more fragmentary inscriptions, relating to the reign of Uzziah. They are commonly attributed to Tiglath-pileser; but in their present mutilated condition, at least, they do not contain his name. One of them apparently describes a great battle fought between the Assyrian chief and Azariah. Another represents that the whole region of Hamath and Lebanon had "turned to" Azariah, and that the Assyrian chieftain, apparently in his eighth year, reduced them to subjection, and took tribute from a long list of the kings of that region, including Menahem and the kings of Hamath, Damascus, and Tyre, but not including Azariah; and that he deported many people, including, possibly, some from the anti-Lebanon region, cf. 1 Chron. 5:23,26.
8. **Agreement with Biblical Statements.*** Whatever else may be true of these inscriptions, how do they agree with the following points in the history, as given in the Bible? (1) That Menahem paid tribute to Assyria; (2) that he was contemporary with Uzziah; (3) that the power of Israel, in the times of Jeroboam and Uzziah extended from Hamath southward; (4) what the Bible implies as to the relations then existing between Israel and

* By Professor Beecher.

Judah; (5) what is said in Chron. as to the military power of Uzziah; (6) what is implied in the Bible as to the decadence and renewal of the power of Assyria; (7) what is said in Hosea in regard to the chronic condition of intrigue between Israel, Assyria, and Egypt?

The name Hadrach, Zech. 9:1, is frequent in these inscriptions.

TWENTY-SECOND STUDY.—THE BOOK OF JONAH.

[The material of this "study" is furnished by Professor Burroughs. It is edited by Professor Harper.]

I. PRELIMINARY NOTES.

1. The chief purpose of such of these "studies" as are devoted to individual books is to obtain a clear and concise conception of the *contents* and *scope* of the book *thought of as a whole*. It is not possible—nor is it desirable—to enter into a minute study of each verse viewed by itself. The very object of the "Inductive Studies" is to supplement and even, in a measure, correct such Bible study. All details, therefore, found in them are to be rigidly regarded as leading the student on to the grasping of the *general thought* embodied in the particular writing.
2. The conception thus attained of the book as a unit is to be employed in further comparative study of the given book in its relations to other books of the same period and of the same general character. Thus, for example, the books of the prophets are to be considered separately *in order that* they may be thought of, subsequently, in their complemental relations.
3. By thus comparing together and unifying in thought the subject matter and scope of the books of Scripture, as they stand in mutual relation to each other, the Bible student should rise to a conception of the sacred writings as an *organic whole*. This is the crowning result of Inductive Bible study.

II. INTRODUCTORY TOPICS.

1. **Oral and Written Prophecy.** (1) Collect the material previously given regarding prophecy in general,* and prepare a brief statement concerning (a) the prophetic function and (b) the manifestation of this function (e. g., how? when? through whom? for what?) in Israel up to this point in the history.
- (2) From the above review, together with your knowledge of O. T. literature, supplemented by a use of the concordance, consider and answer the following questions: (a) How does the number of prophets mentioned by name in the O. T. Scriptures compare with the number of those spoken of as exercising prophetic functions in the days of O. T. history? (b) Does the number of prophets vary at different periods in the O. T. history? If so, at what particular junctures were they most numerous? And why? In other words, consider and state the relation of prophecy to the unfolding of Israelitic history particularly as seen in its peculiar junctures. (c) Is it proper and necessary to make a distinction between those prophets whose mission was peculiarly personal and was confined to their contemporaries and those whose mission was more or less directly to men of later time? Name some of the former class, together with their specific missions. (d) What bearing has this distinction upon the study of the development of written

* (a) See "studies" 6 and 19, together with incidental references in other studies; e. g., third "study," III. 2; fourth "study," III. 3, (2), (5); eighth "study," III. 5, etc.; (b) review your notes containing the condensed results of your reading of the literature of the subject; (c) see references in foot-notes in connection with first "study," p. 21; third "study," p. 28; fourth "study," p. 31; eighth "study," p. 66, etc.